



Richard Earl King

February 27, 1946 - July 14, 2024

Richard E. King, age 78, of Eden Prairie, MN, passed away on July 14, 2024. Richard was born on February 27, 1946, in Minneapolis to Richard and Helene King. He retired from Wells Fargo Insurance Services in 2015 after 44 years as an insurance broker. He is preceded in death by his parents, twin brother Peter, and sister-in-law, Anita King. Richard is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Cheryl; children, Kyle (Kelly) King and Jason (Deanna) King; 5 grandchildren, Kendall, Kade, Wyler, Knox, and Addison; brothers, Dennis King; half-brother, Gary (Carole) King; sister-in-law Sue King; also nieces, nephews, other family, and many friends.

Richard grew up with his brothers in Rosemount, MN, where his parents taught him the importance of hard work, the value of a dollar, and a foundation of strong faith in the Lord. Richard played basketball in high school and stayed involved with Christ Lutheran Church in Eagan, MN. In 1961, Richard and his twin brother Peter became the first Batboys for the Minnesota Twins.

Richard's dedication was evident in every aspect of his life. He attended and played basketball at Augsburg College, earning an Accounting Degree. He started his career at Blue Cross Blue Shield, selling health insurance policies. Around this time, he got drafted by the Army, where he became a private and served as a colonel's clerk. He was stationed state-side at Fort Bliss, Texas, and Nuremberg, Germany. He was discharged from the Army in 1971 after

serving for two years. Richard worked for numerous insurance agencies, notably Chandler Insurance, Acordia, and Wells Fargo Insurance Services. Richard's long and successful partnership with Great West Casualty Company spanned over 35 years. Richard was a well-respected industry leader; he won several awards and gained accolades for his incredible dedication to his clients and the transportation industry.

On September 13, 1970, Richard married Cheryl, his wife of 54 years. They have two children and five grandchildren. Richard raised his family on Weaver Lake in Maple Grove, MN; this provided ample opportunities for fun and hard work and was a gathering place for many. During the summer, quality time was spent on the water, boating, fishing, and participating in water sports. Richard taught others how to water ski and was always up to pull you behind the Master Craft. However, if you asked him to go tubing, the answer would be an enthusiastic no (that's not an actual sport). In the winter months, Richard enjoyed snowmobiling and set up a broomball rink equipped with lights and a cross-country ski trail around the lake for all to enjoy. The boats got bigger when Richard moved to Prescott, WI. He was part owner of a Marina on the St. Croix River with his brothers. A perfect summer day on the water included great food, Steely Dan, a cold beverage, and watching loved ones relax and enjoy themselves.

Richard was passionate about cooking and entertaining and was known for his delicious Swedish meatballs and, more recently, tater-tot hotdish. Richard had a sweet tooth and could often be found baking a late-night tray of Toll House chocolate chip cookies. Richard instilled a love of competition through sports while coaching and encouraging his children and grandchildren throughout his entire life. He had a passion for cars and restored a maroon 1974 Corvette. He had 54 cars throughout his life. Richard was mechanical. He could fix anything if he had baling wire and duct tape. Richard enjoyed time with "The Lutsen Group" of friends who have been a source of fun,

friendship, hilarious skits, and lifelong support. He also mentored many, always ready to offer advice and support.

In retirement, Richard continued to lead a gratifying and fulfilling life. He enjoyed traveling to Europe, attending the US Open, listening to Garrison Keillor, and spending time with his grandchildren. Richard was an avid biker and loved to explore new trails. He traveled to Arizona to spend time with his brothers and rarely missed a game or match for his grandchildren. Richard's retirement was a testament to his steadfast strength, love, and care for others.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming support and love shown during this difficult time. A Memorial Service will be held at 11 am Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at Lord of Life Church, 7401 County Road 101, Maple Grove, MN 55311. A gathering of family and friends will start at 10 am. Private interment will be held at Fort Snelling, St. Paul, MN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Alzheimer's Association MN-ND chapter 12701
Whitewater Drive Suite 290
Minnetonka, MN 55343

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Lord of Life Lutheran Church (Maple Grove)
7401 County Road 101
Maple Grove, MN 55311

Memorial Service

AUG 6. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Lord of Life Lutheran Church (Maple Grove)
7401 County Road 101
Maple Grove, MN 55311

Graveside Service

AUG 7. 1:30 PM - 1:45 PM (CT)

Fort Snelling National Cemetery
7601 34th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Tribute Wall

HS

“ We met Richard's wife, Cheryl son Kyle and grandchild, Kendall tonight. The family parted with Richard's 3-wheel bike, biking shoes, accessories. A sport Richard loved. Such nice people. We were so impressed with Richard's obituary that we passed the link on to our kids. We didn't actually know Richard, but it was a pleasure to meet the family; read + hear about this remarkable man.

Heidi + Steve

Heidi Dodd + Stephen Swenson - August 09, 2024 at 01:02 AM

SG

“ SAV Transportation Group purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Richard Earl King.



SAV Transportation Group - August 05, 2024 at 11:25 PM

LN

“ Lots of love Anke (Vladimir and Noah) purchased the *Country Basket Blooms* for the family of Richard Earl King.



Lots of love Anke (Vladimir and Noah) - August 03, 2024 at 04:31 PM

AF

“ Amber F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Earl King.

Amber F. - July 30, 2024 at 12:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Earl King.



July 30, 2024 at 12:36 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Richard Earl King.



July 22, 2024 at 09:04 AM

VI

“ Valley Transportation Service, Inc. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Earl King.

Valley Transportation Service, Inc. - July 17, 2024 at 03:52 PM

VI

“ *Valley Transportation Service, Inc. purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Richard Earl King.*



Valley Transportation Service, Inc. - July 17, 2024 at 03:52 PM